

Docket No.: 1916.1001

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

Michihito KUMAYAMA

Serial No.

Group Art Unit:

Confirmation No.

Filed: January 18, 2006

Examiner:

For: STAPLER AND CONNECTED STAPLE ASSEMBLY CASSETTE

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Before examination of the above-identified application, please amend the application as follows: